

NEW DEAN FOR V. P. I.'S AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

BY J. G. FERNYHOUGH,
State Veterinarian.

At a time when the subject of agriculture is awakening the greatest possible enthusiasm throughout the South, the State of Virginia is particularly gratified by the recent action of the board of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute in its appointment of Professor H. L. Price to the position of dean of agriculture of that institution.

In taking this step the board manifested not only keen discernment, but by picking the right man for the right place, but by his appointment they, as a body, showed the State that they were willing and ready to employ native talent in an institution where all funds expended are appropriated by the State, and in making Professor Price dean of agriculture they appointed a man whose rights to hold such a position are treble, since he is a Virginian by birth, and therefore a taxpayer; is one of the V. P. I. boys, and hence has been tested thoroughly as to his qualifications for the position in question; and last, but not least, is a self-made man, who earned the right to hold that position by his own many endeavor and perseverance, and by a strict application to his business as student and teacher.

Setting a Good Example.

It gives the writer great pleasure to say a few words in behalf of Professor Price, having known him as boy and man since they were together for four years as classmates at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and then for five years served together as members of the faculty of that institution. It is a pleasure to tell of the success of the young men of Virginia through the columns of her leading paper, since the boys of to-day can thus learn how many of the prominent men of the State have, as has Professor Price, worked their way up from the bottom round of the ladder, and so reading, may profit by the growing example set, and may "go and do likewise."

Early Life and Career.

Professor Price was born in Montgomery county in 1874. His childhood was spent on his father's farm, and his early education was received in the public schools of the county. At the age of sixteen his natural ability to teach was so marked that the teacher of the public school made him assistant teacher of mathematics. For four years he worked on the home farm, and then, at the age of twenty years, he entered the Virginia Polytechnic Institute. As a student Mr. Price was very modest, but excelled in popular both with the faculty and with the student body. In his classes he either led or ranked with the leaders, no matter how difficult the subject might be. He graduated with honors in 1892, took the M. S. degree in 1896, with highest honors, and was then appointed assistant in the horticultural department, of which Professor William B. Alwood was chief. He served most successfully as assistant instructor, assistant professor and associate professor, respectively, until the department was divided in 1903, at which time he was placed in charge of the horticultural department, where he has served faithfully and well until his recent appointment as dean of the agricultural department has called him to a new field of labor, to the great satisfaction of a large circle of friends and associates.

Aside from his brilliant career as student and professor at such a well-known college as the V. P. I., Professor Price is equally popular and prominent in various other circles, being a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; a life member of both the Pomological Society and the Virginia State Horticultural Society; a member of the American Breeders' Association, and recording secretary of the Virginia Horticultural Society. Hence, it will be readily seen that his appointment as dean of agriculture will be met with favor throughout the State, and at every point there will be men ready to sanction and approve the action of the board by saying, "A Virginian for Virginia every time."

The following is quoted from the Virginia Tech, a paper published by the pupils of the V. P. I., graduated in the school of agriculture in 1898.

He returned to the institute and took his M. S. degree with the class of 1900. Mr. Price then took a position as student instructor at the State experiment station here, where he performed his duties with great success that he was made assistant at the station.

"He has been promoted frequently, and always has filled his position with great credit. Therefore, to those who know his ability and his work, his recent appointment is but a fitting reward for his years of untiring labor at the institute. He is peculiarly fitted for his position by his practical experience, which, added to his executive ability and knowledge of men, will enable him to fulfill his duties with a manner of efficiency."

"Professor Price is a Virginian, born in Montgomery county. His youth was spent on the farm, where he gained both bodily vigor and the experience which was to aid him so much in his work in later years. He is a young man of that unassuming and yet the regard and love of every student with whom he is thrown. The most telling comment on his character was expressed by yesterday by a student, when he told another, 'You see Price, He'll give you a straight deal. He's the whitest man here.'"

Query from Canfield, Va.—I have a horse twenty-one years old, and while his health seems good in every respect, yet he cannot chew his food very well. I have heard that old horses could have their teeth filed so as to enable them to eat better when their teeth proved to be unable to do their work. What do you think of this, and what I can have done to benefit the horse?

Answer.—Call in a veterinarian and have him examine the horse's mouth, telling the surgeon exactly how the horse acts, and that you think the animal's teeth need "floating" when you send for him, in order that he may bring his dental instruments with him. Doubtless the veterinarian will know just what to do and will benefit your horse's mouth very much.

Many old horses, as well as some not so old, are being dosed with medicine daily, when, as a matter of fact, the whole trouble is with the teeth. Horses very often have one tooth too long for the tooth with which it should naturally come in contact when eating, the result being that the food or material is not properly chewed, and thus prevented from performing their natural functions as they should, owing to the fact that

their tables cannot come in contact, the result, of course, is indigestion, and other constitutional disturbances as a sequel to improper mastication, while the true cause is in the mouth—diseased or abnormal teeth. The proper thing in treating any disease is to first locate, and then if possible remove, the cause of the trouble; this being done, the condition will usually be relieved by a little time.

Query from Concord, Va.—I have a horse that is a little thick-winded when he goes up hill. He does not pant like the other horses, but makes a noise from his nose. What is this disease, and what should be done for it? I am a subscriber to The Times-Dispatch, and will appreciate it if you will reply to this question through that paper.

Answer.—Your horse is suffering from the effects of a disorder known as "broken wind," or, in other words, he is a "roarer." The trouble is in the throat, and not the lungs. The condition known as "heaves" is, on the other hand, a disease of the lung tissue. If the disease is of long standing, treatment is very unsatisfactory, and, in fact, while you may use some drugs to give slight temporary relief to the difficult breathing, yet the relief will be only temporary, and the effects of the said drugs are apt to injure the horse constitutionally. Thus, I would not advise medical treatment for the same. Slow farm work is about all such animals should be required to perform, and if the condition is a result of a neglected case of strangles or distemper. Some very old horses show the same symptoms simply from the effects of age, yet they may last for years for slow, steady work.

Query from Lacombe, Va.—I have a horse that hurt his ankle joint in August, and it is now very large, and is, in fact, thickened all around, and he is very lame. What must I do to relieve the animal from his lameness and at the same time remove the enlargement from his ankle?

Answer.—If the swelling is soft and tender to the touch, then keep the place covered with a tightly wrapped woolen bandage, and do not let the animal, but keep him in a box stall with a dirt floor. Feed oats and bran, with no corn, so long as the swelling of the legs. If the swelling is hard, then you should have a veterinarian examine the animal, as I suspect the only way to get the swelling down is with the hot iron and follow this with a blister. Do not use a lame horse.

News of Horses and Horsemen

BY W. J. CARTER ("BROAD ROCK").

Rudolph Spreckels, the California sugar king, and owner of one of the largest breeding and training establishments on the Pacific coast, is returning from racing, and his reasons, which follow, will appear to most fanciers of the thoroughbred running horses.

"My decision to retire from racing as an owner has been reached only after careful consideration. Under proper conditions, I enjoy horse-racing immensely, and to me it is a matter of regret that the sport is falling into disrepute as a result of the prominence that the gambling feature of it has been allowed to usurp. Racing associations, whose duty it should be to foster the sport with a view to permanence, have allowed commercialism to influence their methods of management, with the result that while they have reaped material temporary gain, the future of the sport has been imperiled and well-nigh destroyed. Instead of promoting racing for the zest and enjoyment it affords in itself, as in the primitive days of the American turf, we have been treated to the spectacle of greedy and rapacious capitalists squeezing enormous dividends out of the sport at the expense of its future. The bookmaker has been encouraged to such an extent that he occupies altogether too important a place, and it is he who is largely responsible for the hue and cry raised against the turf during the last few years. Until such time as sagacious management relegates gambling to the rear and makes it an incident rather than the principal consideration, racing will continue to be held in disrepute."

"My views on this subject are shared by at least a minority of those in control of racing in our own community, but apparently there has been little disposition to take decisive steps calculated to put the turf on the enduring basis that would follow the subordination of the speculative and commercial elements to that of sport for sport's sake. So long as the present policy of our jockey club's management is continued, racing necessarily will find itself on the defensive, and the question of whether or not it shall be permitted to continue will rise as

a harassing specter with each succeeding session of our Legislature.

"I do not care to pose as a puritanical reformer, and I desire it to be understood that I entertain no fanatical ideas on the subject of whether or not a man should be allowed to make a bet; but I do believe that racing should be conducted in a manner that will dispense with the necessity for the political manipulation that is required to-day to keep the race-tracks from being closed by public sentiment. While my interest in horse-racing continues as keen as ever, I cannot conscientiously continue to participate in the sport as it is at present conducted."

Shetland Farm Sale.

The auction sale of trotting-bred and general purpose horses, conducted by Irving J. Coffin at Shetland Stock Farm, near Richmond, Va., on October 27th, was a success, and prices ruled beyond expectations. Among the consignees were Colonel W. H. Chapman, Clifton Farm, Gordonsville, Va.; Ira A. Beaver, of Richmond, and other. The top price of the vendue was reached, when Dr. J. P. McDonough, of this city, paid \$285 for the black pacing mare Maggie S., 2:17 1/4, with foal by Wealth, 2:10, son of Gambetta Wilkes, 2:19 1/4. Patrick McDonough secured a bargain in Blackman, a good-looking and promising two-year-old trotter, by Gambetta, while E. E. Corpey bid off handsomely for the mare offered during the day in Pansy Red Cloud, the black daughter of Red Cloud, Jr., a member of the family founded by Thomas W. Lawson's famous \$10,000 show horse, Red Cloud. Charles E. Strang, of the Franklin Street Horse Bazaar, this city, cried the bids, and his sallies of wit furnished the merriment of the day. Summary of best sales:

Lancaster, trotter, bay mare, 15, by Lancelot, 2:23, dame Marlana, by Sorcerer, with foal, Wealth, 2:10; Hugh Nelson, R. F. D. No. 6, Richmond, Va., \$65.

Wealthanna, trotter, bay filly, 2, by Wealth, 2:10; dam Lancaster, Richmond, Va., \$110.

Lady Joe, bay filly, 3, by Delmar, thoroughbred, The Du Mare; J. B. Drevon, Richmond, Va., \$100.

Duke Wealth, chestnut colt, weanling, by Wealth, 2:10, dam by Louis Nelson; H. T. Grady, Richmond, Va., \$125.

Blackman, trotter, black gelding, 2, by Gambetta, 2:19 1/4, dam Margaret, by King Mantle, 1:51 3/4; P. McDonough, Richmond, Va., \$175.

Maggie S., 2:17 1/4, pacer, black mare, 12, by Ben Marshall, 2:38 1/2, dam Trink-Pot, 2:24 1/4, by Price Goldcup, with foal by Wealth, 2:10; Dr. J. P. McDonough, Richmond, Va., \$385.

Pansy Red Cloud, trotter, black mare, 4, by Red Cloud, Jr., dam by Wilko, son of Simmons, 2:28; E. E. Corpey, R. F. D. No. 5, Richmond, Va., \$197.50.

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4, by Red Cloud, Jr., dam by Wilko, son of Simmons, 2:28; E. E. Corpey, R. F. D. No. 5, Richmond, Va., \$197.50.

Mr. Fox Leaves for His Home.

Cyrus T. Fox has returned to his home, in Reading Penn., after a sojourn here of several months, as assistant to the manager of the Virginia State Fair Association. This well-known veteran of the Pennsylvania newspaper industry, and successful promoter and manager of fairs and race meetings for more than forty years past, did good service while here and proved a valuable assistant to Manager Lloyd, who appreciated the efficient aid of his co-worker. The greater part of the press work pertaining to the fair was done by Mr. Fox, who ingratiated himself with editors and reporters alike. After the close of the Virginia State Fair the versatile Pennsylvanian served in an official capacity at the Emporia Fair, Emporia, Va., where his services were appreciated to the extent of a liberal financial reward in addition to the stipulated compensation agreed upon by the management there.

The addition of Mr. Fox to the list of State Fair officials was due to the efforts of the advertising committee, made up of J. G. Corley, chairman, with L. O. Miller and A. H. Molderby, and these gentlemen by their action in this matter added much to the success and popularity of the fair.

State Fair Dates for 1909. With a nice profit of \$15,000 or more with which to renew operations, the Virginia State Fair management has already announced the week of October 4th to 9th as the dates for 1909. Our State Fair this year was the greatest yet seen in this section of

the South, in spite of the depressed financial conditions prevailing, and with renewed efforts and concerted action on the part of our citizens in general, an organization so praise-worthy and fraught with so much benefit to the State Fair at large, should grow in importance and scope from year to year. It would seem the part of wisdom to foster and encourage the live stock exhibits, of which that of cattle has proven almost a revelation during successive years, though breeders have been rather slow to recognize the importance of the horse department.

The latter is, of course, allied with the speed department, which being so, it is to be hoped that each will be made features of future fairs, and that the different breeds will be looked after impartially, while the same liberal spirit should rule in regard to the contest of a popular and interesting feature must be conceded, as evidenced by a well-filled grandstand each afternoon and the hearty applause accorded the close finishes.

Some Virginia-Bred Winners.

On the fourth day of the Washington meeting Bobbie Kean, brown horse, 7, by Flatlands, dam Lizette M., by Bolus, won six furlongs, with Sui-Second and Bob Callahan, Jr., a full brother to the winner, third.

On the following day Virginia-bred horse won again in evidence, as Mrs. A. H. Bradley's Baby Willie, brown mare, 5, by Aloha, dam Florence Hubbard, won at Washington at six furlongs, with King Dodo, second, and Bob Callahan, Jr., again third. On the same day Southwest won a steeplechase, distance about two and a half miles, with the ladies' hunter Bertha Barker, daughter of Blitzen, and Faustina, by Bolus, second. Bertha Barker was bred by Dr. K. Mathews, of this city, and while quite good enough to win, this bay mare has finished second in several cross-country events this season.

She is owned by Alvin and J. Louis Garthright, who won a couple of steeplechases with Young Blitzen, the son of Blitzen and Mollie Davis, at the State Fair. On the race program of the latter Young Blitzen appeared as by Blitzen, dam Faustina, instead of Mollie Davis, an error that caused some confusion.

Alto Dewey. King Dodo, brown colt, one-year-old, full brother to this season's sensational two-year-old trotter High Admiral, is owned by Colonel W. L. Laughlin, of the Exchange Hotel, Fronticksburg, Va., by whom he was purchased as a weanling from Dr. J. C. McCoy, breeder of half-mile trials of 1:03 3/4, with the last eighth in 14 seconds. In Charles Dean's hands, was paraded in the Ohio Agricultural College, where he kept Alto Dewey, and the son of Admiral Dewey and Avena, daughter of Palo Alto, should make a very fast gelding with proper handling. Among Colonel Laughlin's broad mares is Militant Maid, a big and handsome brown daughter of the dead Parole, 2:16, and she was bred in the spring to Baron Bingen, son of Bingen, 2:06 1/4, and Linda, by Baron Rogers, 2:00 3/4.

King Dodo Sold.

M. C. Jackson, of Petersburg, Va., who took his stable of hounds to the Washington Horse Show and race meeting, was among the successful exhibitors, and after taking second in the ladies' hunter class with King Dodo, the son of Castaway Second, was sold to Mrs. Hughes, of Baltimore, by whom this good, honest and well-mannered chestnut gelding will be ridden to hounds at the semi-weekly meets of the Green Spring Valley Hunt Club. The price was \$2,000. King Dodo was formerly owned by E. E. Sydnor, who hunted him with Deep Run Hunt Club, and later the big gelding passed to Mr. Jackson, for whom he has been a frequent winner at different shows.

Action of the Muscles.

About 40 per cent of the weight of an ordinary horse is muscle. All muscles concerned with locomotion are attached to bones, and when they con-

tract they cause the bones to which they are fastened to move. The lower part of a horse's legs is nearly all bones, but the muscles in the body and upper part of the limbs are attached to various parts of the bony construction by tendons, which produce a motion of the parts located some distance away.

The amount of motion produced by the action of the muscles of, say, one of the horse's hind legs will depend upon the length of the muscles and the length and the relation of the bones to which they are attached. The common department among students of the subject is expressed in these words: "Long muscles for speed, short muscles for power." A long muscle enables a horse to step over the ground quickly. A short muscle, however, is not powerful because it is short because in horses constructed on that plan the muscles are thicker, contain more fibres, all of which, pulling together when contracted, exert a much greater pulling force than a long, more slender muscle. It is because of this that in buying horses to draw heavy loads we look for large and heavy muscles, while in roadsters we must attach importance to the length of the muscles.

The most of a horse's muscle is in the hind quarters. This may be a surprise to you, and Mr. Marshall, of the Ohio Agricultural College, recently, but the next time you have an opportunity to see a horse pulling a very heavy load study him carefully. You will be impressed with the idea that most of the work is being done

with the hind legs. When the hind foot is moved forward the knee rests on the ground and the leg is bent at the hock joint; if the toe does not slip, and the horse is strong enough for his load, the muscles above, pulling on the tendon fastened to the back and upper point of the hock, will close the joint, or, in other words, straighten the leg and cause the body to move forward. It is by the performance of this act at every step that the horse moves, although, of course, the strain on all the parts is much greater when pulling very hard. This will also show the necessity of having large, broad, straight joints and legs, that give the horse the most secure footing. You have probably also noticed when driving that many horses put their hind foot on the ground in front of the mark left by the forefoot, and the faster they go the greater will be the distance between the marks made by the fore and hind feet. This shows that the length of a step is determined by the hind quarters; it also explains the need of large, strong hocks and legs that are not so crooked as to seem weak or so straight as to lessen the leverage afforded by this very wonderful arrangement of the parts.

Aquiline a Good One.

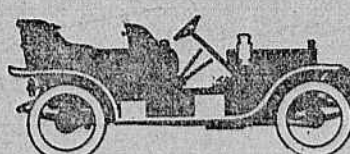
Aquiline is the sire of a great four-year-old in Aquin, 2:05. He recently stepped a mile in 2:05 1/4. Aquiline is in the stud at W. J. Janvier's Silver Spring Stock Farm, Ticonderoga, N. Y.

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